ABSTRACT

A method comprising fetching an input from at least one of a plurality of floating-point registers and detecting whether the input includes a token. If the token is detected in the input, checking what mode the processor is in. If the processor is in a first mode, processing the input to render an arithmetic result. If the processor is in a second mode, performing a token specific operation. And producing an output. The present invention also provides a processor comprising a first instruction set engine, a second instruction set engine, and a mode identifier. A plurality of floating-point registers are shared by the first instruction set engine and the second instruction set engine. A floating-point unit is coupled to the floating-point registers. The floating-point unit processes an input responsive to the mode identifier and the input to produce an output.